[*English*]

Price of Milk in Andaman and Nicobar Island

4620. SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Andaman-Nicobar Islands Integrated Development Corporation Limited, Port Blair (ANIIDCO) has increased the price of re-constituted milk;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there have been protests/representations against this hike in milk price from various quarters at Port Blair;

(d) the cost of production of reconstituted milk produced by the ANIIDCO and whether there has been any increase in the price of fresh milk supplied to it by the Animal Husbandry Department of the Andaman Administration; and

(e) the subsidies/concessions etc. given to the ANIIDCO by the Government for running the milk plant and of supplying milk to the public at Port Blair?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE *MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI K.C.* LENKA): (a) to (e). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Shortage of Butter

4621. SHIRMATI DIL KUMARI BHANDARI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Gujarat Cooperative Milk Marketing Federation has been marketing large number of products of the National Dairy Development Board;

(b) if so, the details of products being marketed by it;

(c) whether the price of 'Amul butter in the open market is much higher than the price at which it is sold through Mother Dairy outlets in Delhi;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to ensure adequate availability of Amul butter at uniform price?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI K.C. LENKA): (a) and (b). Gujarat Cooperative Milk Marketing Federation (GCMMF) is distributing edible oils marketed by National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) under the Brand name 'DHARA'.

(c) and (d). The retail price of Amul butter including dealers' margin and inclusive of all taxes is Rs. 8/- and Rs. 38.50 per pack of 100 gms. and 500 gms. respectively. Minor variations in retail price could be due to voluntary reduction of margin by the dealers.

(e) The production of butter and few other daily products had to be curtailed as priority has been given by the public/cooperative sector dairy plants to meet the requirement of liquid milk of cities and towns. However, with the onset of flush season the production and availability of surplus milk fat is likely to improve.

[*Translation*]

Mineral Deposits in Bihar

4622. SHRI SURAJ MANDAL: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether coal, lead and mica reserves have been located in Paharpur divi-

sion of Godda district and Sono division of district Munger in Bihar;

(b) whether gold reserves have also been discovered in Sono division; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Government for their exploitation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) Occurrences of coal in Goda district and lead and mica in Munger district in Bihar have been reported. Reserves of such minerals in these areas have not been estimated.

(b) Government of Bihar have carried out exporation for gold in Sono division. The results are inconclusive.

(c) The question of exploitation of the above minerals would arise only when any economically viable deposit of those minerals is established.

[*English*]

Registration of Neem Products

4623. SHRI SURYA NARAYAN SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Insecticide Bureau (CIB) has granted registration to the neem products;

(b) if not, the reasons for the delay;

(c) the progress made by the Sub-Committee appointed for formulating the guidelines for neem and other botanical pesticides;

(d) whether any project for the development of safer pesticide from plants were proposed to the Department of Science and Technology; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b). No, Sir. Registration Committee constituted under Section 5 of the Insecticides Act, 1968, deals with the registration of insecticides and not the Central Insecticides Bureau (CIB). Applications for registration of Neem products based on the modified guidelines circulated to the Pesticide Industry on 11th December, 1991, are yet to be received

(c) Registration Committee had appointed a Working Group (not Sub-Committee) during September, 1990 to formulate guidelines for Neem and other botanical pesticides. The report of the Working Group was considered by the said Committee at its meeting on 25th July, 1991 and the approved guidelines were circulated to the Associations of the Pesticide Industry. Representations received for simplification of said guidelines from the Industry were modified in consultation with the prospective manufacturers of neem-based insecticides. These guidelines were approved by the Committe on 18th November, 1991 and circulated to the Associations of the Pesticide Industry.

(d) and (e). No, Sir.

Ongoing Irrigation Projects in Tamil Nadu

4624. SHRI C.K. KUPPUSWAMY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the on-going major and medium irrigation projects in Tamil Nadu; and